

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-33. canceled

34. (currently amended) An electrical connector, comprising:

a housing having a retention structure, the housing retention structure having including a plurality of channels each channel extending substantially in a first direction, a plurality of recess[[es]], and a plurality of an opening[[s]] formed therein, each of the openings and extending between a respective one of the channel[[s]] and a respective one of the recess[[es]]; and

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a plurality of contacts each mounted in a respective one of the channels, each of the contacts and comprising:

a medial section;

a mounting portion extending from one end of the medial section and comprising a mounting tab, the mounting tab extending through a respective one of the opening[[s]] and contacting the housing so that the housing restrains the contact in the first direction and in a second direction substantially opposite the first direction; and

a compressive mating portion extending from another end of said medial section and having a distal end, wherein the retention structure of said housing engages the distal end[[s]] of the compressive mating portion[[s]] of the contact[[s]] to preload the contact[[s]].

35. (currently amended) The electrical connector of claim 34, further comprising a plurality of fusible elements, ~~each of the fusible elements being~~ secured to the mounting portion of a respective one of the contact[[s]].

36. (currently amended) The electrical connector of claim 35, wherein ~~each of~~ the fusible element[[s]] is positioned at least in part within a respective one of the recess[[es]].

37. (currently amended) The electrical connector of claim 35, wherein the housing comprises a plurality of projections ~~each located within a respective one of the openings, each projection and~~ securely engaging a respective one of the mounting tab[[s]].

38. (New) An electrical connector, comprising:
a housing that defines a channel and an exterior surface; and
a contact comprising:
a mounting end that is fixed within the channel;
a distal end that is positioned adjacent to the exterior surface of the housing and is movable along the exterior surface of the housing; and
a medial portion that connects the mounting end and the distal end of the contact,
wherein the medial portion partially protrudes from the channel.

DOCKET NO.: FCI-2572/C2685
Application No.: 09/783,375
Office Action Dated: July 1, 2003

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39. (New) The electrical connector as claimed in claim 38 wherein the distal end of the contact is positioned adjacent to the channel.

40. (New) The electrical connector as claimed in claim 38 wherein the mounting end of the contact extends through the exterior surface of the housing.

41. (New) The electrical connector as claimed in claim 40 further comprising a fusible element connected to the mounting end of the contact.

42. (New) The electrical connector as claimed in claim 41 wherein the fusible element is a solder ball.